

FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY IN NEWTON

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

May 12, 2015

Present: Gregg DiBiaso, Jon Reuman, Jacki Rohan, Lesley Sneddon, Bobbie Sproat, Cathy Morocco, Becca Lozinsky

Absent: Alison Costello

Staff: Erin Splaine, Rowan Van Ness

Member of Operations Council: Judy Curby

Bylaws Committee: Gordon Moriarty

Members of FUSN: James Frances, Margaret Zaleski, Cindy Mapes, Jim Matthiesen, Bethany Allen, Susan Timberlake, Thom Theara, Paul Estin

Clerk: Ruth Comstock

Invocation/ Chalice Lighting

Bobbie Sproat led the covenant reading and Gregg DiBiaso gave the inspirational reading.

Procedural

Gregg DiBiaso made the motion and Jacki Rohan seconded the motion to accept the following people as new members to FUSN: Kelly and Grant Hauber, Barbara Brousal- Glaser, Lorenz Glaser. The vote to accept these candidates as new members was unanimous.

Lesley Sneddon made the motion and Cathy Morocco seconded the motion to approve the April Board meeting minutes. The vote in favor was unanimous.

DLRE Report

RE Council

Teacher and COA recruitment is underway.

The FUSN Youth Group is hosting a youth group from a local synagogue and a Syracuse UU church.

Earth Day activities and the Coming of Age service were successful.

Minister's Report

The minister reported the following:

Erin and Rowan are going to Sandy Island.

The Youth Coordinator Position is posted.

The team to choose the Membership Coordinator is moving forward.

Sharon Sisskind is heading up the Updating Website Committee.

Parking issues with Santander Bank have been resolved, and parking restrictions have returned to as they were before winter.

There are many needs for pastoral care.

Membership Coordinator Search

Members of search committee: Greg Sullivan, Andrea Kelly and Rachel Viscomi.

Judy Zacek and Bill Dusett are co-chairs of the Membership Committee.

Once a finalist is selected and approved, the Personnel Policy Committee will be involved in finalizing the hire.

Annual Budget Drive

Linda Rinearson, David Morocco and Urban Larson presented the FUSN 2015 Budget Drive Report and their suggestions for next year's Budget Drive.

To date:

306 pledges have been made

\$508,648 has been pledged

This is 95% of the reduced goal of \$535,000.

Gregg DiBiasco reported that 160 people have signed up for the Fellowship Dinner.

Financial Oversight Committee Update

No report

By-Laws Committee

Gordon Moriarty, the Chair of the Bylaws Committee, presented a report entitled: By-Laws Committee Report and Collaborative Proposal.

After discussion, Jacki Rohan made the motion and Cathy Morocco seconded the motion to endorse the Bylaws Committee Report in general and to present its recommended bylaw change to the congregation on the warrant.

The motion was: I move that we, the Board, include in the Warrant for the June 7, 2015, FUSN Annual Meeting a call for a congregational vote as to amendments to the FUSN By-laws as

shown in Attachment 1, Proposal for Amendments to the By-Laws of the First Unitarian Society of Newton.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Jon Reuman made the motion and Lesley Sneddon seconded the motion to adopt the policy for membership as presented in Attachment 2 to the report, Proposal for Policy as to Membership.

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Nominating Committee

No report

Finance Committee

No report

Board Projects

The Next Steps Report

Jon Reuman led a discussion about the Next Steps Weekend report and process. He made a motion and Gregg DiBiasco seconded the motion to send a summary of the Next Steps Report to the congregation in an e-mail with a short explanatory cover note. This communication will also indicate that a full copy of the Next Steps Weekend Report will be available to FUSN members in the FUSN administrative office. The vote in favor was unanimous.

A discussion of planning to implement the report will take place at a future meeting.

Communications Revamp

No update

FUSN Goals and “Slogan”- Becca Lozinsky and Alison Costello went to the RE classrooms and obtained ideas for slogans about what FUSN means to the children. These ideas will be shared in some format with the congregation.

Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:48pm and ended at 10:02pm.

Developing Leadership Team

Cathy Morocco made the motion and Becca Lozinsky seconded the motion to accept Kate Mason and Karen Edwards as members of the Developing Leadership Team. The vote in favor was unanimous.

The next Board meeting will be May 28th at 7PM.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Comstock, Clerk

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